

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 487
By Womack

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach George Hockenberry and the 1997-1998 Murfreesboro Central Middle School girls' basketball team on winning the Tennessee Middle School Athletic Association State Tournament.

WHEREAS, with a dazzling display of hardwood prowess rarely equaled by older and more experienced squads, the 1997-1998 Murfreesboro Central Middle School girls' basketball team has recently completed an extraordinary season, winning the prestigious Tennessee Middle School Athletic Association State Tournament thus permanently etching its name in the record books among the best Tennessee squads at the middle school level to ever compete; and

WHEREAS, the Central path to glory began with the team capturing the coveted Little Middle Tennessee Conference regular season championship, with an unblemished 10-0 record; and

WHEREAS, this tremendously talented team then took the conference tournament title; and

WHEREAS, despite strong competition, Central won the TMSAA Southern Area championship, beating Shelbyville 52-44 and E. A. Cox 31-28; and

WHEREAS, they won the TMSAA State Tournament with impressive victories over Sycamore Middle School 36-26, in semi-final action, and Mt. Juliet 41-22, in the title game; and

20000000

20000000

011783

01178326

WHEREAS, their exemplary overall record of 26-2 represents an excellent winning percentage of .930; and

WHEREAS, the Central girls' won each of the four post-season tournaments in which they participated; and

WHEREAS, the team will be specially honored at Middle Tennessee State University during the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association girls' state high school tournament; and

WHEREAS, highly regarded and respected Coach George Hockenberry, who won his second state title in the last three years, was appropriately honored as the TMSAA girls' large division Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, his capable staff included Assistant Coaches Jeff Jordan, Kerry Malone, and Nancy Ryan; and

WHEREAS, the team was fortunate to have as leaders, Cora Beth Smith, a state tournament Co-Most Valuable Player and All-Middle Tennessee Conference selection, Melissa Weiland named state tournament Co-Most Valuable Player and All-Middle Tennessee Conference, Ashlee Allen, Amy Watson and Lynne Napatalung, who were specially recognized as TMSAA All-State Tournament and All-Middle Tennessee Conference, and Amanda Malone and Jenna Burnworth, who were selected All-Middle Tennessee Conference; and

WHEREAS, the other members of the team, each of whom made a significant contribution to its success, were: Lori Fulton, Carrie Overmann, Katie Miller, Jaime Yost, Brooke Ward, Abbee Franklin, Tammy Spradley, Ashley Hill, Lauren Sutterfield, Stephanie Thomas, Rachel Brown, Melody McCool, Sayaka Kanakama, Tonya Woodson, Krystal Horton, Megan Lufkin, Kristen Fowler, Andrea Donell, Jessica Coble, Julie Watson, and Katesa Locke; and

WHEREAS, the hard-working managers were Megan Smith, Megan Corley, and Charletha Jordan; and

WHEREAS, the team has been strongly encouraged by Principal William Vaughn and Assistant Principals Pat Murphy and Julia Maddux; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the numerous accomplishments of this fine squad; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach George Hockenberry and the 1997-1998 Murfreesboro Central Middle School girls' basketball team, and wish them much continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and each person named above, with this final clause omitted from such copies.